

Assemblymember Christine Kehoe



Brings You News
From Sacramento

January 30, 2004



Assemblymember Christine Kehoe, Speaker Pro Tem

Dana Middle School Student Wins 76th District Essay Contest

The winner of my annual 76th District 5th Grade Essay Contest was announced Monday at an assembly at Dana Middle School. Out of 380 intelligent and well thought-out essays, eleven year-old Dylan Morris won first place honors. For his award-winning efforts, Dylan received a State Assembly Certificate of Recognition, as well as a Union 76-sponsored prize package consisting of Hot Wheels Cars, a Frisbee, and a personal CD / MP3 player.

After being announced as the winner, Dylan took the stage to read his essay in front of his classmates. His essay was a letter to Dana Middle School Principal Diane Ryan about having more recess time.

In addition to honoring Dylan for his efforts, Dana Middle School was recognized for submitting the most essays out of all the schools in the contest. For this, Dana Middle School won a CD/DVD Stereo System which was also sponsored by Union 76.

I'll be sponsoring this essay contest again this year. If you are interested in being a sponsor, please contact me at Assemblymember.Kehoe@assembly.ca.gov.



Dylan reads his essay to fellow classmates



Clockwise from left - Teacher Kim Visser, Jeff DeBoer and Greg Miller of Union 76, Assemblymember Kehoe, Dylan Morris, teacher Bonnie Elias.

Get Help Paying for College

Today, every low- or moderate-income student who meets academic standards is guaranteed a Cal Grant award. Cal Grant awards provide full financing for tuition and fees at the California State University or the University of California, and do not have to be repaid. Awards are also given to community college students and students entering private California colleges.

Students must apply for a Cal Grant by submitting a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Form and a Cal Grant Grade Point Average Verification Form by March 2, 2004. For more information, go to <http://www.csac.ca.gov/default.asp>

Developing a Plan to End Poverty in California

Poverty affects everything from early childhood nutrition, access to healthcare, access to education, high school graduation rates, and much more. Children raised in poverty often continue their lives in low-paying jobs, without economic security, and ultimately guaranteeing another generation to follow in poverty. Just over ten percent of Californians live in poverty, which for a family of four is at or below about \$18,000 a year. A full-time minimum wage worker earns about \$13,500 a year.

I'm pleased to announce that I have recently been appointed to the Joint Legislative Committee to Develop a Master Plan to End Poverty in California. It will discuss issues that include a living wage, affordable housing, equity development and universal health care. It was created to develop a 10-year plan on how to end poverty in California.

The Committee is made up of seven Assemblymembers and five Senators. For more information on the committee, go to <http://www.assembly.ca.gov/acs/newcomframeset.asp?committee=288>.

Capitol Office
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0001

Phone: (916) 319-2076 Fax: (916) 319-2176

District Office
1010 University Ave.,
Ste. C-207
San Diego, CA 92103

Phone: (619) 294-7600 Fax: (619) 294-2348

E-mail: Assemblymember.Kehoe@assembly.ca.gov

Blue Ribbon Fire Commission Meetings Underway

Last week, Governor Schwarzenegger's Blue Ribbon Fire Commission met in San Diego to examine fire-fighting efforts in California and hear testimony from federal, state and local officials.

These meetings are giving the commission the opportunity to hear from residents, fire officials and other interested parties on specifics of what happened during the fires, and will allow us to make recommendations for improving California's fire-fighting system.

Presentations and transcripts from past meetings, as well as information on future meetings, is available at <http://www.oes.ca.gov/Operational/OESHome.nsf/0/3D3127F2BCFF01B688256DE3005FAF6E?OpenDocument>. The next meeting will be on February 5, 2004 in Riverside.



Fire Commission members listen to testimony at the January 21st hearing in San Diego. From left: Congresswoman Susan Davis, Senator Dede Alpert, Assemblymember Kehoe, and County Supervisor Greg Cox.

Brochures Available

My office provides a variety of free brochures that can give you information on everything from state parks and energy saving tips to how to lobby the State Legislature. I also have information about protecting your privacy, including how to put your phone number on the national "do not call" list to stop unwanted calls from telemarketers.

If you are interested in receiving any of these brochures, please email me at Assemblymember.Kehoe@assembly.ca.gov

Some Staff Changes

I'm delighted to announce that Karen Scarborough, who has served in my San Diego office as the Resources Consultant, was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger to serve as the Undersecretary of the Resources Agency.

Ms. Scarborough has been influential in shaping San Diego's environmental policies over the past decade and I was very lucky to have her part my team. She was instrumental in assisting me to form the San Diego River Conservancy.

As Undersecretary of Resources, Scarborough will be charged with working to protect California's wildlife, parks, forests and water systems.

For more information on the Resources agency, go to <http://resources.ca.gov/>. We're sorry to see her go.

But the good news is that Deanna Spehn will join my San Diego District Office as Senior Policy Consultant on February 2, 2004. Spehn's experience includes serving for nearly eight years as a Senior Policy Analyst at San Diego City Hall, including 3-1/2 years for former Mayor Susan Golding, and during the post-election transition period for Mayor Dick Murphy.

Deanna is a key addition to my staff, bringing with her more than 25 years of experience in land use, the environment, transportation, housing, redevelopment, affordable housing, water and sewer issues, education, solid waste, and municipal budgets.

She knows local government and the challenges it currently faces. Spehn helped developed the City's 6 to 6 Extended School Day, Multiple Species Conservation Program, and most recently an innovative for-sale affordable housing program. We're delighted to have her join my team.

Capitol Office
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0001
Phone: (916) 319-2076 Fax: (916) 319-2176

E-mail: Assemblymember.Kehoe@assembly.ca.gov

District Office
1010 University Ave.,
Ste. C-207
San Diego, CA 92103
Phone: (619) 294-7600 Fax: (619) 294-2348